OCS

SECRET

DDS&T-3928-66
28 July 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Europe/Africa Branch/FDD

SUBJECT   : OCS Notes Relevant to Intelligence
                   Methods Conference

1. I assume that OCR will provide inputs relevant to CHIVE and CHIVE-like problems and will cover materials handling as it applies to document image storage and retrieval. I have not included any codeword material here--this could be helpful in explaining particular examples in some cases if Mr. Borel so desires. I have tried as much as possible to limit these notes to the computer side of the problem.

2. General

Perhaps a good opening comment is that the computer itself is currently aggravating rather than alleviating the information explosion. The brute-force power of EDP has in many cases been substituted for adequate analysis of a data processing problem. This has been the case for many new computer applications. It is only after the second or third expensive iteration that a sensible perspective is obtained. We see instances where basic input data is replicated, reformatted, resorted, to the point where the output volume exceeds input by perhaps 100 times. It seems evident that the same methods applied to harnessing the information explosion elsewhere in the intelligence process must also be applied--perhaps more carefully--in the computer environment.

3. Computer Applications

The use of the computer in intelligence processing in CIA in the past three years has expanded to the point where we see applications in almost every element of the intelligence cycle. A few examples are cited below:

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26 July 1966

PERSONNEL Recruitment

Ch, Ops Div, [   ] noted STAT
with regard to kinds of applicants being
processed for Ops Div that most of the
applicants were at the lower grade levels an
and had minimum experience.

STAT

He had [   ] at that date with an
authorized ceiling [   ] and more than STAT
enough people in the pipeline to run over
the ceiling shortly.